the Lions' Pride

Of Saint Leo University

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2002 VOLUME XXXVII NO. 3 SINCE 1965

Today

Pi Sigma Alpha Saves Democracy

Recently, Pi Sigma Alpha conducted a voter registration drive on campus, with great success. Page 3

African American Literature

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Movie Review

You liked Silence of the Lambs? Didn't think Hannibal was so hot? Check out this review of the latest in the series, Red Dragon. Page 4

Sports Extravaganza!

Catch up on all the latest in Saint Leo athletics and find out how your favorite team is doing. Page 6

God vs. Pledge of Allegiance?

Are God and the Pledge of Allegiance compatible? Is religion part of our national character? Turn to page 8 to find out.

Child abductions lead parents to ask, "What's going on?"

Summertime abductions make it seem like another child goes missing every day.

By Jessica Williams
Co-Editor

Children like those pictured above are becoming more and more likely to be abducted. (Courtesy Chris Machian, The Gateway)

SAINT LEO – Kidnapping and abductions are not new to the world, but recently it appears on the news that the numbers are rapidly increasing. And, even worse, the children are snatched right out of their beds.

Many Americans are baffled that anyone could kill a child, yet it appears like nothing is being done to prevent future cases. There are a select few Americans who believe the only answer is putting these people to death.

Ronald Williams, a father, believes there should be a law that punishes those who kill the children they abduct. "The offender should be prosecuted and receive severe punishment with possibility of the death penalty because killing a child is the worst thing you can do," he said.

In the past, parents watched their children play outside from a window, but never really had to fear that their children could be taken from right in front of their house. However, more recently, abductors are entering homes and taking the children. Parents are losing the safety of their own homes.

"As a mom, I never let my children play unattended. I do not let them over to anyone's house that I have not met on previously. They no longer 'play right out front.' This summer's events have really frightened me," explained Tricia Brewis, mother of two and teacher at Sand Pine Elementary in Pasco County.

Apparently, a solution would be to get and use security alarms or to get a dog.

Some movies being released this fall are showing how victims can be chosen. Red Dragon, due out in October, has its killer choose his victims through the slides families have sent to film processors. All he needs is right there: the family's address, their daily routines, whether they have pets, etc. Another movie entitled,

ABDUCTIONS PAGE 5

Underage drinking proves trouble-some for Abbey Tavern

Glug, glug, glug. Guess who's drinking illegally at your local pub?

Jay Kubica
Co-Editor

Underage drinking is not a new problem for Saint Leo University. However, it is becoming a serious problem for the Abbey Tavern.

In the past few weeks, incidents involving underage drinking and DUI's have been linked to the Tavern.

"This weekend (Sept. 27-29th) we had an accident at the Tavern and it's being investigated by the University and the Pasco County Sheriff's Department," Mark Stier, Director of Residence Life, explained. "Even though the Pasco County Sheriff's Department is investigating, we'll still do our own investigation and our own judicial process."

Other problems related to drinking at the Tavern, such as brawling and vandalism, have raised concerns at the University.

"We've had several students get into physical confrontations with each other," Stier said. "We've had students leave the tavern and commit theft and vandalism on the main campus."

The Abbey Tavern, located directly across State Road 52 from the main campus, is owned by the University. This makes the University just as liable for underage drinking as the Tavern.

TAVERN PAGE 5

Opinions

EDITORIAL

Saint Leo University is a truly caring community

Allison Myatt
Assistant Editor

One of the largest differences between the small community of Saint Leo University (SLU) and the rest of the world is that students are a little more courteous than society.

Granted when one walks through Dade City he or she may run into a few people who will stop to help another person out. But, how many times is that likely to happen? Sure, people will help pick something up if you drop it, but it is not often when someone, who is not getting paid, will help a stranger carry something heavy to his or her car.

At Saint Leo, most of the time, all it takes is asking for assistance. Generally, students will graciously go out of their way to help a fellow student. Some students will go so far as to help carry a heavy box from deChantal Hall to any of the Residence Halls to help another student who cannot carry the box.

Another example of SLU students going out of their way is students who will stop what he or she is doing to drive a fellow first year student back to Marmion/Snyder Hall simply because it is raining.

I have never seen something like that happen at a grocery store or at a Super-Walmart. It is a rare occasion when a stranger tells someone else to put their stuff in the back of his or her car, and he or she would give you a ride to your car because it is raining. How many people would actually do that if you didn't know the person.

Thirdly, Saint Leo students will, for the most part, step out of the way when they see someone coming who needs help getting around the campus. Most of the time, students even help the other student. For instance, students have unselfishly gone out of their way to help take fellow students around. It is students like these, who have kindly given up a little bit of their time to help another student that make other students want to do the same.

Clearly, students at Saint Leo will go out of their way to assist other students and other people.

"Under God?"

Jon Benton
Special to the Lion's Pride

I came across an essay that caused me some distress. It was an English essay about the Pledge of Allegiance, and why its recital should be allowed in our nation's schools. As a patriot, and a member of the military, I will be one of the first to stand up and support the recital of the pledge in our schools. I think patriotism and pride in our nation should be taught at an early age, but not at the expense of compromising the ideas that this nation was formed on. The Constitution of the United States was ratified, forming this nation under the premise that separation of church and state was paramount. Anyone who does not agree with me should read the First Amendment to that great document, and then ask why "under God" was added to the pledge in the first place. I agree whole-heartedly with the author that the pledge should be allowed in our public schools, but it shouldn't be there with the religious connotations that it has now.

The author was correct in stating that the pledge had been written in 1892, but what she failed to mention was that it was modified in 1954 by a joint resolution of congress and President Eisenhower added the famous words "under God." This was not the first battle the pledge had seen. The Supreme Court deemed mandatory recital of the pledge by public school students unconstitutional in 1943, after being formally recognized by congress in 1942.

Another point the author made was that the words "under God" could apply to everyone who practices any form of religion. What she fails to realize is that our constitution holds the choice not to practice religion with the same amount of respect as practicing a religion of your choice. Some Americans are extremely proud to vocalize their association with the United States by reciting a pledge, but the religious undertone makes them feel left out.

My last point will argue the author's belief that the Pledge of Allegiance stands next to the National Anthem. In many ways, she is correct. The National Anthem incites a great amount of pride and is a symbol of patriotism that can be found at the onset of almost every public event in this nation. But there is one major difference between the first verse of the Star Spangled Banner and the Pledge of Allegiance; the words that are sung from the first verse of the Star Spangled Banner contain no reference to religion. (The words in verse four of the National Anthem do contain reference to religion, but they are never recited.)

In closing, I want to reiterate my feelings about the necessity of the Pledge of Allegiance in our classrooms. I did it as a child, and I feel it is our duty as parents to ensure that our children recite it as well. Everyone who chooses to live in this great nation should pledge allegiance to it on a daily basis, but they shouldn't have to make a religious event out of it. Let's undo the joint resolution made in 1954 and get the pledge back in our schools.

Oops, Our Bad!

Correction to Commuters Represented, Voices Heard: Meal Blocks are $50 for 10 meals, not $42.50. Also, the cafeteria is more than willing to work with students to book rooms for club meetings, as well as listen to other concerns.

Note on photo captions: All captions, unless otherwise noted, are written by the Lion's Pride staff. The newspaper apologizes for any inaccurate or offensive captions.

WRITE HERE

Send letters to the editor and guest columns to the Lions' Pride newsroom, Portable #4. Or, send your letter/column by e-mail to monarch@saintleo.com

Letters and guest columns must be submitted with student's name, year, and major. Faculty and staff members must include rank and department.

Please include a phone number (not for publication) so we can verify authorship. All letters and columns are subject to editing.

The Lions' Pride reserves the right not to publish any letter or column.

Pi Sigma Alpha registers voters on campus

Jay Kubica
Co-Editor

Life. Liberty. The pursuit of happiness. Oh, and don't forget voting. Pi Sigma Alpha, Saint Leo University's Political Science Honor Society, has held these truths to be self-evident with a voter registration drive.

On September 25th and 26th, PSA held the drive in the Lion's Lounge, located in the McDonald Center. Approximately 50 proud citizens were registered to vote while PSA was present.

"The purpose behind the drive was to increase voter awareness about how important their roles are in deciding the future of this nation and its leaders," Barbara Giuliano, Secretary of PSA, explained.

PSA made sure they were prepared for all possible registration needs.

"We had forms to register first time voters according to the rules of each state. We also had the forms to request absentee ballots," Giuliano stated.

According to the Federal Voting Assistance Program, absentee ballots should be requested at least forty-five days prior to an election, although deadlines would vary from state to state.

"Our goal in Pi Sigma Alpha is to broaden political awareness, especially among college students who are most likely voting for the first time," Giuliano added.

Despite the best efforts of organizations such as PSA, voter apathy remains high among some students at Saint Leo.

"I never really cared to do it [vote]," Senior Jason Pinkowski stated.

Junior Cory Mather added, "I don't give two shits. The politicians only say what people want to hear."

Those who registered were treated to a demonstration of new touch-screen voting machines, operated by representatives from the office of Kurt Browning, Supervisor of Elections for Pasco County. According to Giuliano, these machines were the same ones to recently cause problems in Broward County.

The next official election is Tuesday, November 5. Offices for Florida include Governor, US Representative, and Attorney General of Florida.

"A little closer to the Saint Leo community is the election for Circuit Court Judges. Linda Babb, an adjunct professor for Saint Leo is running for Group 26 of the 6th Circuit. Also Judge Wayne Cobb, Circuit 6: Group 8, will be speaking at our campus about the US and Florida judicial system: Thursday, November 21 from 2:30-3:30 pm," Giuliano pointed out.

The registration drive underscored the importance of voting in a democracy.

"Every United States citizen has a voice and voting is the best way for that voice to be heard," Giuliano stated.

Does anyone know about the African-American literature class?

Brillion Williams
Staff Writer

There are prominent figures in African American history who many students at Saint Leo University probably know little about. These African Americans pushed forth and brought about changes in African American history that paved the way for blacks seeking justice in such an unjust society.

Sure, we have all heard of Malcolm X or Reverend Martin Luther King Jr., but how much does the average student really know about these two African American leaders? Many students at Saint Leo University do not know there is a way to learn about the history of Malcolm X, Martin Luther King Jr., and other black figures as well.

Saint Leo University offers a course called African American Literature (Special Topics). This course discusses issues in black history, such as the relevance of education, the uprising of the black woman, and the important role literature played in the black community. These topics, and many others, are all part of the history of African Americans. Booker T. Washington, Frederick Douglass, W.E.B. Dubois, Harriet Jacobs, and countless other African Americans, played vital roles in shaping the way blacks read and wrote literature.

The African American Literature course is being taught by Dr.Audrey Colombe. Although she is a Caucasian woman, she felt it was necessary to teach an African American Literature class.

Colombe explains, "African American Literature needs to be in the curriculum. I would love to see someone here teach African American Studies as well," Colombe says. "There are more faculty here now who are interested in getting African American material into the regular curriculum."

Colombe's main concern for the African American Literature class is it may get removed if not enough students sign up for the class in the future. Yet the blame shouldn't only be placed on the students.

"Not enough students sign up for the class, but you can't only blame the students. The faculty and administration have a duty to inform students about courses like this as well," Colombe says.

Ironically, there are only two black students taking the African American Literature course this Fall semester.

Colombe was not she surprised when informed there are only two black students taking the class.

"I was not surprised. African American students might be kind of leery because they expect an African American teacher," Colombe says. "The fact of the matter is, there are not enough African American faculty at this school."

It's important that not only black students show an interest in African American literature, but that non-black students show an interest in the African culture as well.

The only way someone can truly understand people who share different cultures, is to learn not only about his or her culture, but others as well.

Colombe explains, "The white students in my class can really benefit from paying attention to the literature and the history of African Americans."

Colombe has specific goals for the African American Literature course in the years to come.

"The thing I would like to see more of is the student's interest in the text. I love to see students who get really excited about the history," Colombe says.

"African American literature is such an incredible tradition and it's so specific. You can't find another history that adds activism and standard literary topics the way African American Literature does."

Judicial Hearing Committee

The Division of Student Affairs is looking for volunteers to participate on the campus judicial committee. This is a board of faculty, staff and students who are responsible for hearing student cases involving the University judicial system.

We will train all volunteers. There isn't a large time commitment. Each member may be called two or three times a semester as the need arises. This is an excellent opportunity for students to get involved in Student Affairs and in leadership positions.

If you are interested please contact Ms. Linda Dye in the Office of Residence Life, extension 8329.

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Movie Review: "Red Dragon" proves more frightening than Hannibal Lector

By Kristee Sherry
The Daily Princetonian

(U-WIRE) PRINCETON, N.J. - Thomas Harris' novel "Red Dragon" is the reason why you should lock your door at night.

Universal Pictures' upcoming movie "Red Dragon" — opening this Friday — is the reason why you should deadbolt it.

Publicized during recent months as "the prequel to 'The Silence of the Lambs,'" "Red Dragon" is based on the 1981 suspense thriller also written by Harris. It examines the origins of psychiatrist-turned-serial killer Dr. Hannibal Lecter prior to his debut in "The Silence of the Lambs." It also introduces an even more nightmarish psychopath/sociopath/serial killer/monster — Francis Dolarhyde.

Labeled by his pursuant detectives as "The Tooth Fairy," Dolarhyde makes Hannibal "the Cannibal" seem like Santa Claus.

The movie begins with a flashback to the first capture of Hannibal, in 1980. FBI detective Will Graham (Edward Norton) is consulting with renowned psychiatrist Dr. Lecter to develop a psychological profile for an at-large murderer. Will has a special knack for thinking like the psychopaths that he pursues, and when he realizes that Hannibal himself is the man that the FBI is after — it is too late. He endures a near-fatal attack by the crazed psychiatrist, but fortunately lives to see Dr. Lecter sentenced to life in a maximum security cell in the Maryland penitentiary.

Fast-forward several years later to Graham's idyllic life in Florida with his wife and young son. His days working for the FBI are far behind him — that is, until special agent Jack Crawford (Harvey Keitel) requests his help in a most disturbing case. "The Tooth Fairy" murderer — as deemed by a national tabloid — has already killed two entire families in Birmingham, Ala., and Atlanta, and Crawford is certain that he will strike again.

In the most gruesome of crime scenes, the Tooth Fairy leaves bite marks on the dead bodies, shattered mirrors throughout the households, and inserts the shards of glass in the eyes of his victims.

Dr. Lecter (portrayed masterfully, as always, by Anthony Hopkins) is somewhat of an auxiliary figure in this first novel of the Hannibal trilogy (finally rounded out by "Hannibal" in 1999). Much like Clarice (Jodie Foster) in "The Silence of the Lambs," Will resorts to bargaining games with the ex-psychiatrist in order to bring himself closer to the killer.

Although Hannibal is not the psycho at large in "Red Dragon," Hopkins nevertheless receives top billings for Universal's release. Audiences possess an affinity for Hannibal's hypnotic stare and quotable collection of one-liners ("I do wish we could chat longer but...I'm having an old friend for dinner").

The British Hopkins' notorious embodiment of insanity has been unparalleled since "The Silence of the Lambs" release. Audiences will therefore not expect Ralph Fiennes fierce portrayal of Francis Dolarhyde, the Tooth Fairy — or as he prefers to be known, the Red Dragon.

Fiennes ("Schindler's List") is a better Dolarhyde than the novel could have hoped. Understated, socially awkward, and slightly disfigured, Dolarhyde is a recluse residing in what used to be a nursing home run by his deceased grandmother. His fetishism for the subject of William Blake's painting entitled "The Great Red Dragon and the Woman Clothed with the Sun" (c. 1805), puts Hannibal's claim to the "most severely disturbed man on earth" in jeopardy.

"Red Dragon" is flawlessly cast. Fiennes is both horrific and pitiful, and while certainly not as amusing as Hopkins, is every bit as engrossing. Edward Norton's boyish portrayal of Will Graham brings the seemingly stoic and ultra-focused novel persona to life. Keitel ("Reservoir Dogs") plays more of the authoritative, hardened boss in the film, and is an adequate complement to Norton.

Phillip Seymour Hoffman ("Boogie Nights", "The Talented Mr. Ripley", "Magnolia", "Almost Famous") — hailed as one of the most versatile actors in Hollywood — is appropriately the sleazy tabloid journalist Freddy Lounds.

Unfortunately the movie does not have time to develop Freddy to the extent that the novel does, but he is nevertheless an enjoyable touch. Finally, Emily Watson portrays Reba McClane, a recent acquaintance of Dolarhyde's who happens to be blind.

Dolarhyde uses her disability to flirt with the idea of exposing her, unknowingly, to the side of him that the rest of the world cannot see — that of the Great Red Dragon and his desire to achieve "The Becoming." This technique nearly parallels the culminating scene in "Silence," using the night vision goggles.

Universal's attempt is not the first to bring Harris' first psychological thriller to the big screen. "Manhunter," a Michael Mann film, was released in 1986. Needless to say, it was received nowhere near as favorably as the 1991 release of "The Silence of the Lambs." Perhaps this was due to Mann's underestimate of audiences' affinity for the character of Hannibal Lecter — portrayed in "Manhunter" by Brian Cox.

Thomas Harris obviously realized the potential lurking within this minor character of Hannibal in the 1981 "Red Dragon," and made him the central focus of "The Silence of the Lambs," his next novel, written in 1988. The novel became the movie in 1991, and the rest, as they say, was Hollywood history. "Silence" earned five major Academy Awards: Best Actor (Anthony Hopkins), Best Actress (Jodie Foster), Best Director (Jonathan Demme), Best Adapted Screenplay (Ted Tally), and Best Picture.

To the same extent that "Silence" perfected the essence of Dr. Lecter, "Hannibal" probably corrupted it. The 1999 novel and the 2001 film sharing the same title received indifferent reviews, reminiscent of "Manhunter," and thus, the trilogy ended on a disappointing note.

Universal's "Red Dragon," nevertheless, successfully resurrects the legacy of Harris' "Hannibal" trilogy. Fortunately, it leans more towards the success of "Silence" rather than "Hannibal." I don't believe that a movie can adequately convey the patient developments, tantalizing red herrings, complex character motivations, and forensic evidence down-to-the-smallest-hair-fiber that constitute a Thomas Harris masterpiece.

The film nonetheless excels in condensing all of these elements into a two-hour-long adrenaline rush, with a superb ending. Universal's "Red Dragon" finally does justice to what is perhaps the greatest psychological thriller ever written.

WANTED :

The Lion's Pride wants YOU
to write for US.
You've seen our newspaper.
If you'd like to be a part of it,
please contact one of our staff!!

Abductions Con't

One Hour Photo, stars Robin Williams as a film processor who becomes obsessed with his customer. This is a definitely a scary thought.

Alarmingly, though, most of the abduction cases involve parents fighting over custody battles. Rather than fight the court system, a parent will abduct the child.

"I would submit that the vast majority of reported kidnappings in this country are those involving parental taking of a child whom they do not have lawful custody of. This type of crime is a third degree felony in the State of Florida," stated Barry Glover, Criminology professor.

According to the 1999 National Institute of Justice 203,900 children were abducted by family members wanting to take over custody, whereas 58,200 involved children who had been abducted by strangers.

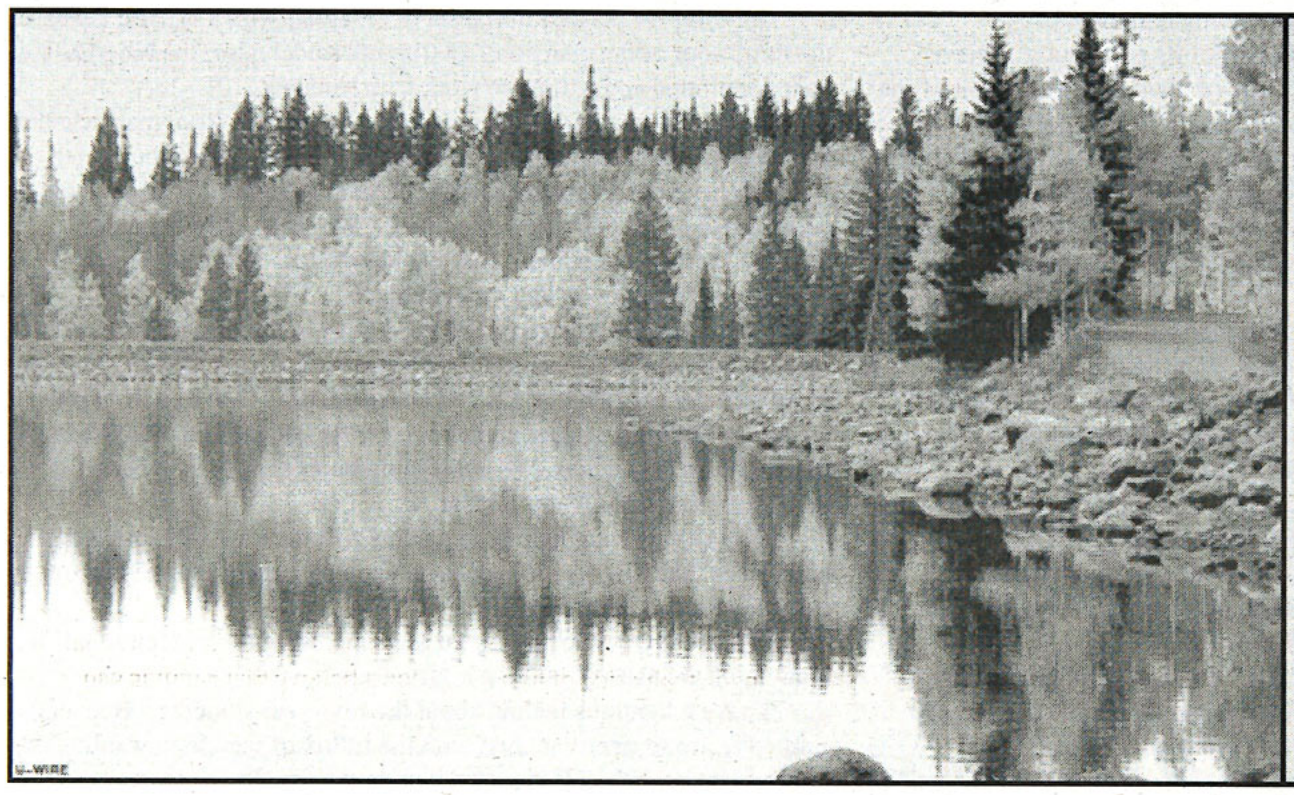
Luckily, the last few child murderers from this summer have been found and arrested. However, more than half of these kinds of cases go unsolved. One such case is Jennifer Odom. Her body was found in 1993, a few months after she disappeared. However, the person who killed her was never found. She had been taken from her bus stop and killed by a blunt trauma to the head. Evidence is still hard to find in many of these abduction cases.

One preventive method that local elementary schools enforce is that children will only be released to those people approved on a list by the parent. The parents must also send a note stating that the person will be picking their child up. Valid photo identification must be shown as well. Schools feel this method prevents someone from just taking a child whenever he/she pleases from the school.

"[At Sand Pine Elementary], we are providing a show on 'Stranger Danger' from the PTA in coordination with the Sheriff's office," explained Brewis.

Over the summer, 60 Minutes aired a special on "Stranger Danger" about how parents can teach their children to protect themselves from strangers. An important lesson is that younger children should know their phone number so that they could call if they had the opportunity.

All in all, the world is becoming a scary place, which causes parents, schools, law enforcement, and the government to work together and play an active role in preventing future occurrences.



Aspen trees on the Grand Mesa in Colorado begin to change their fall coats of orange and yellow.
(Heather Callaway)

Tavern Con't

"I think since it's University run, we've responsible for following all state and federal laws regarding the sale and distribution of alcohol. At this time, we're doing our best to make sure that only those students who are 21 are being served," Stier stated.

While some students at Saint Leo agree underage drinking is a problem, they don't think anything can be done to prevent it.

"It's easy to drink if you are underage," Junior Pam Cannizzo explained. "Underage drinking happens no matter what, and it is going to happen no matter how close security is watching."

"I don't think they should be drinking, and overage people shouldn't be buying for them," Junior Jason Pinkowski stated. "I don't think there's too much that can be done," Pinkowski added.

In accordance with the University's responsibility, several steps have been taken to prevent minors from easily obtaining alcohol at the Tavern. Pitchers of beer are no longer served. Also, new wristbands identifying drinkers are being used. These bands do not stretch, and will alternate to prevent reuse of the same bands.

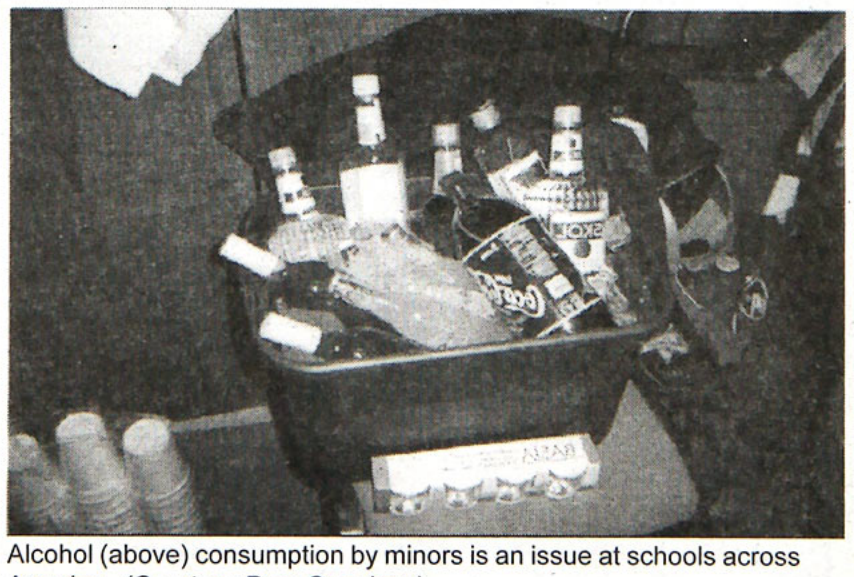
According to Stier, these problems have surfaced before, although not to their current extent.

"Last year, the policies were in place, and it wasn't as bad as this year," Stier said. "With so many students frequenting the Tavern, the students have made it into an issue."

Stier added, "I think the management is working very hard with the Division of Student Affairs to make sure all state, county, and university policies are being followed to the best of their ability."

The University is currently trying to keep the tavern open, but, as Stier says, "without jeopardizing life and limb."

"Part of being an adult in college is having a good time," Stier explained. "The other half is remembering those good times."



Alcohol (above) consumption by minors is an issue at schools across America. (Courtesy Pam Cannizzo)

Students must study more: 2 hours per every hour in class

By Jacklyn Freese
Loquitur (Cabrini College)

(U-WIRE) RADNOR, Pa. — College faculty across the country recommends that students study 30 hours per week. In fact, only a few study that much.

Nationally, faculties believe students should spend two hours studying out of class for each hour in class. On average, a student at Cabrini College has 15 credit hours so he or she should, according to faculty, spend 30 hours outside of class studying.

"Two hours studying out of class for every hour in class has to be generated," Dr. Catharine O'Connell, the dean of Academic Affairs, said.

"That does not mean that when a student gets right out of class they must go straight home and do two hours right then. It simply means in the course of a week, students are expected to put in 30 hours of studying, researching or reading and doing homework."

This year's senior class saw over half of its population achieve dean's list status last semester. The class of 2004 had 32 percent of the total students making dean's list.

"Upper class students tend to work more efficiently because they have been here longer and know the ropes," O'Connell said.

Out of last year's freshman class, 66 of the 281 total students made dean's list, making 23 percent of the class of 2005 on the dean's list for the spring 2002 semester.

"Freshmen do not come to college understanding the studying environment in college," O'Connell said. "The main reason is high schools do not do a sufficient job of teaching students how to study."

Many of the academic departments require their students to have a certain grade point average to remain in their program. Education majors must maintain a 3.0 or higher GPA, and social work majors must maintain a 3.0 or higher in their social work courses.

"GPA and study habits depend on a wide variety of factors," O'Connell said. "Education majors normally have higher GPAs than average because they must maintain a 3.0."

"I definitely study 30 hours a week," Alexis Campbell, freshman elementary education major, said. "I think a lot of people do study 30 hours a week because of the amount of work in college."

"I study 30 hours a week, but it is mostly homework and papers," Suzie Euler, sophomore English and communications major, said. "I would think most people would study 30 hours a week, especially in their major."

A good majority of students, however, do not put in the recommended 30 hours a week. Laura Cover, a junior elementary education major, made dean's list last semester but believes she does not put in 30 hours.

"I do not do 30 hours a week primarily because I have no time," Cover said. "However, I think how well a person does depends on their learning capacity. If a person uses class time wisely, then that is part of their studying."

"I do my homework, reading assignments and studying, but I still do not think I put in 30 hours a week," Andrew Storti, sophomore finance and accounting major, said. "On average my week consists of 10-15 hours total of studying." Storti made dean's list last semester and his overall GPA is a 3.93.

"I do not think I do the 30 hours outside of class," Colleen Bowman, freshman business administration major, said. "My maximum is probably 10 hours a week, but I still get my work done."

Many freshmen are still getting used to the college atmosphere, so their study habits may need some fine tuning. The college employs many programs to help all students, not just freshmen, achieve their academic goals.

"We offer extensive tutorial services, along with a writing center on the third floor of the mansion," O'Connell said. "Also, the advisers are very committed and willing to work with students."

The tutoring center, located in room three of the Rooymans Center, has seen a significant jump in the number of tutees using the center.

"We have definitely seen an increase in students," Maritza DeJesus, coordinator of the tutoring center, said. "We see mostly freshmen because most of the courses that we have tutors in are first year courses like basic math and other subjects."

The writing center, located on the third floor of the mansion, has also seen an increase in its usage. "This year, we are packed with students," writing center coordinator, Dr. Ted Blaisdell, said. "On Sunday nights, we are in Xavier, Tuesday nights in New Residence Hall and Wednesday nights in Woodcrest. We are turning people away in Woodcrest because we have so many people."

The writing center helps all students with their writing, but they mostly see English, psychology and sociology papers, along with graduate students and their papers.

With the increase of first-year students using the academic services, many hold the class of 2006 in high esteem.

"I have a fabulous feeling about the first-year students," Blaisdell said. "We are so overwhelmed with the influx of freshmen wanting to improve their writing. It is such a wonderful sign."

The sign that the current freshmen class is taking their education seriously will help them in the long run.

"The students who end up being successful tend to figure out that they have to put the maximum effort in for their education," O'Connell said. "By starting early, their chance of success increases because they learn the habits of highly successful people."

COLUMNS

Americans herded from the First Amendment

By Mary Vorsino
Ka Leo O Hawaii (U. Hawaii)

(U-WIRE) HONOLULU - Nearly 50 percent of Americans polled in a recent survey hold that the First Amendment - that fundamental dictum of our country's constitution which protects free press, free speech and free religion - guarantees too much freedom and goes too far in protecting it.

This, only shortly after the Supreme Court ruled that the government may continue to hold closed immigration proceedings for the more than 1,000 noncitizens detained under suspicion of terrorist connections.

This, after six states - Connecticut, Florida, Idaho, Maryland, Missouri and Washington - passed legislation this year which denies or curtails public access to building evacuation routes, formerly public broad schematics of government buildings and building vulnerability assessments for fear that such documents would fall into the "wrong hands."

This, after the federal government has taken up the post-Sept. 11 privacy baton in the wake of a number of terrorism investigation-related arrests, and demanded formerly public records - like the names of those being kept in custody - be kept confidential.

But the First Amendment sentiment shared by 49 percent of Americans - a 10 point jump from 2001 - should not be surprising, Ken Paulson, executive director of the First Amendment Center, which commissioned the poll, told the Associated Press late last month.

"Many Americans view these fundamental freedoms as possible obstacles in the war on terrorism," he said, adding that nearly half of those polled thought reporters have been too aggressively questioning the government on that military initiative.

The poll, which surveyed 1,000 Americans between June 12 and July 5, also found: 48 percent of those surveyed said the government should have the leeway to disregard the religious freedom of a monitored religious group's followers, if the investigation is in the interest of national security. 46 percent of those surveyed said the Constitution should be amended to prohibit flag burning. 40 percent said academic freedom should be restricted to discourage professors from criticizing U.S. military policy during the war. and 25 percent of those surveyed did not consider the right to speak freely "essential." The poll, indeed, reflects more than just a stunning affront of statistics against one of America's most sacrosanct nonreligious doctrines.

It shows a people - bewildered and apprehensive - intent on preserving the shattered shards and tattered pieces of normality and the-way-things-were still in

Sports

SLU Athletics
Special to the Lion's Pride

Women's soccer team snaps long SSC drought

A small step in the overall process.

The Saint Leo University women's soccer team snapped its 15-match winless streak against Sunshine State Conference teams Tuesday, October 1 in Lakeland, FL, leaving town with a 1-1 double overtime tie with Florida Southern College.

The Lions are in their third year as a varsity sport and prior to the tie with the Mocs, they had lost every league game.

Saint Leo, now 0-3-1 in league play and 1-6-1 overall, is prepared for a league match on the road against Eckerd College.

Freshman Sarah Wright scored at the 71:50 mark of regulation to pull the Lions into their tie with Florida Southern. She was assisted by junior Helen Brady of Pinellas Park, FL. Wright and Brady are now tied for the team lead in points with seven. Each player has three goals and an assist.

The Lions dropped a 3-1 conference decision to Rollins College at home after playing the Tars on even terms through 58 minutes. After falling behind 1-0 some two minutes into the match, Saint Leo tied it at the 40:49 mark on a breakaway goal by Brady. Sophomore Sara Morrow of Hover, AL assisted on the goal. The Tars, however, recovered and scored at the 58:45 mark to take the lead for good and added an insurance tally at the 77:24 mark.

Saint Leo volleyball team splits two SSC matches

A great effort in the opener. A not very good performance in the second match.

The Saint Leo University volleyball team came out of the first weekend of Sunshine State Conference action with a 1-1 record. The Lions are 9-7 overall.

The Lions hit the road for two more SSC matches. Florida Tech was the opponent in Melbourne, while Rollins College supplied the opposition in Winter Park.

The Lions breezed to a 3-0 win over Lynn at home by scores of 30-24, 30-25, 31-29, but Barry University came away with a 30-13, 30-18, 30-23 triumph on the Lions' floor. Barry is defending Division II national champion.

In the victory over Lynn, sophomore Robbie Beach of Dayton, OH, senior All-America Cristiana Florea of Baia Mare, Romania and freshman Laura Manovill of Dunedin, FL combined their talents to lead the way. Beach had 13 kills and a .346 attack percentage, while Florea had 13 kills, eight digs and a .333 attack percentage and Manovill had 43 assists and 12 digs.

Florea was the top performer against Barry with 11 kills and six digs.

Lion men's soccer team hosts unbeaten Barry Friday

The Saint Leo University men's soccer team opens Sunshine State Conference action at home against Barry University. The Bucs are 1-0 in league play and 7-0-1 overall. Barry is ranked No. 5 in the nation in the National Soccer Coaches Association of America poll.

The Lions hope to rebound from a tough 2-1 double overtime loss on the road to non-conference foe Nova Southeastern last Saturday night. The team now stands 5-2-1 on the season.

Saint Leo jumped out to a 1-0 lead on a goal by freshman Giuseppe Politi of Ontario, Canada at the 19:56 mark. Senior Ryan Smith of Tampa, FL assisted on the play. Nova tied it at the 27:32 mark and won it with a goal in the second overtime at the 107:09 mark.

Senior Charlie Long of Holiday, FL had seven saves and was tested throughout by the home team. Nova outshot the Lions 26-12 and had a nine corner kicks to two edge.

Saint Leo CC teams set for Florida Invitational Saturday

The Saint Leo University men's and women's cross country teams journey to Gainesville for the University of Florida Invitational meet.

The Lions ran against all the Sunshine State Conference teams for the first time this year in the Eckerd College Invitational. The meet gave league schools an opportunity to run the course where the league championships will be held later this month.

The Lion men finished ninth overall with 274 points, while the women placed eighth with 266 points.

Ryan Laponte was the first Lion across the finish line with a 51st place finish at 32:21, while Ken Corigliano was 52nd at 32:27, Joel Stephens was 58th at 38 minutes, Daniel Kahl was 59th at 40:05 and Matthew Duran was 60th at 45:26.

Mary Beth Morrison led the women with a 47th place finish at 30:48, while Morgan Mander was 51st at 32:28, Katie Etchison was 52nd at 32:38, Maria Martin was 53rd at 32:44, Krystyna Schecliyer was 63rd at 38:47, Danielle Walter was 64th at 39:06 and Marilyn Martillo was 66th at 44:49.

Saint Leo University's Sports Information Director gets national recognition

Walt Riddle was named to the 2003 Verizon Academic All-America Hall of Fame selection committee. Walt is already on the national board of Directors for CoSIDA (College Sports Information Directors of America). This is an honor bestowed only upon a select few candidates.

The Verizon Academic All-America Hall of Fame honors athletes that perform not only in their respective sports, but in the classroom as well. Hall of Fame members must have been named to the Academic All-America team while in school and continued to have a positive effect on their community after graduation. Mr. Riddle's role will be to sort through the many candidates for induction to the hall and choose which individuals would best represent this Hall of Fame.

Congratulations, Mr. Riddle, on your recognition as a member of the selection committee for the Verizon Academic All-America Hall of Fame. Enjoy your time rubbing elbows with the many qualified candidates for induction. Represent Saint Leo University well at the National level as you do on a daily basis on a local level.

Lion Women's soccer team at home

Two important Sunshine State Conference matches, along with a South Region battle highlights matches at home for the Saint Leo University women's soccer team.

The Lions, who posted a pair of conference ties, met the University of Tampa, while Barry University invaded University Field later on and region foe Christian Brothers supplied further opposition.

Saint Leo brings a 0-3-2 league record and a 1-6-2 overall mark into play.

After snapping a 15-match winless streak inside the conference by gaining a 1-1, double overtime tie at Florida Southern College, the Lions followed it up with another 1-1 double overtime road tie against league foe Eckerd College.

The Lions rallied to gain a tie in both matches. It was senior goalie Amber Ferrol's (Largo, FL) five saves and a goal by freshman forward Sarah Wright of Clearwater, FL, off an assist by junior Helen Brady of Pinellas Park, FL, that spearheaded Saint Leo. The Lions had 11 shots on goal against the Mocs with Brady having six and Wright three.

Ferrol had nine saves against Eckerd, while Brady scored the lone goal on a header off a free kick. Sophomore Caron Lumbra of Orlando, FL assisted on the goal. Saint Leo had seven shots on goal, led by Brady with three and Wright with two.

Lion's men's soccer team hosts Eckerd, two outside opponents

The Saint Leo University men's soccer team had a busy week with three home matches on tap. It all began with a Sunshine State Conference match against Eckerd College. Two South Region matches follow at University Field.

The University of Central Arkansas is was in town for a 4 p.m. match against the Lions, who are 0-1 in league play and 5-3-1 overall. Christian Brothers followed later that weekend.

Saint Leo dropped a heartbreaking 2-1 decision to league foe Barry University. Despite playing without leading scorer sophomore forward Tony Rosso of Tarpon Springs, FL, who missed the game with an injury, and senior forward Federico Polo of Bragado, Argentina, who missed the game after being red carded against Nova Southeastern, the Lions were up to the task against the nation's No. 4 ranked team.

After giving up a goal at the 25-minute mark, freshman midfielder Brent Stanze of Cape Coral, FL tie it with his first collegiate goal at the 66:29 mark off an assist from freshman midfielder Paul Reynolds. The Bucs, however, regrouped quickly and scored the winning goal, 1:47 later.

Senior forward Ryan Smith of Tampa, FL just missed scoring for Saint Leo with 7:03 left, but his shot missed the left bottom corner of the net by inches. The Barry keeper was in the middle of the goal on the play.

Lions split pair of SSC volleyball matches; at FSC Classic next

The Saint Leo University volleyball team was at Florida Southern College twice for some matches.

The Lions locked horns with the Mocs at 7 p.m. in a Sunshine State Conference match and returned to Lakeland later that week to compete in the Florida Southern Classic. They played St. Thomas University at 3 p.m. and Nova Southeastern at 7.

Saint Leo split a pair of road conference matches, overpowering Florida Tech Friday night by scores of 35-33, 30-27, 30-27 and following it up with a below average performance against Rollins College. The Tars won by scores of 30-22, 30-19, 30-23. Saint Leo now stands 2-2 in league play and 10-8 overall.

Senior All-America Tina

SPORTS BACK PAGE

Leftovers

Fraud charge may end Brittian's career at South Florida

By Anthony Gagliano
The Oracle (U. South Florida)

(U-WIRE) TAMPA, Fla. — Greg Brittian's career at South Florida may be over.

Brittian, a senior who transferred to USF from Central Florida Community College last year, was found in violation of an NCAA bylaw, according to USF associate director of athletics in charge of compliance, Steve Horton.

In a report that Horton sent to the NCAA Friday, an investigation revealed that Brittian turned in a research paper that he didn't write for a class during the summer semester. According to Horton's investigation, Brittian had little knowledge of the paper and a pair of athletic department developmental assistants contributed to the completion of the paper.

"For us, this is of a very serious nature, an area of unethical conduct," USF Athletic Director Lee Roy Selmon said. "For us, that's important – that our student-athletes abide by the rules and perform academically."

As a violation of Bylaw 10.1 (b) Unethical Conduct/Academic Fraud,
Brittian would be subject to a one-year suspension, ending the senior's eligibility at USF. The rule had been a half-year suspension, but following similar incidents at Minnesota where tutors authored papers for athletes, the NCAA imposed a harsher penalty, increasing the fine to a full year. Horton said that Brittian would be the first case since the rule was amended in December 2001.

The investigation started with a meeting between Brittian and his professor, where Brittian said his girlfriend wrote the paper for him and that Athletic Department Development Assistant Collin Sherwin, a former Oracle columnist, had reviewed the paper for him. The university elected to not follow up with further penalties against Brittian.

In a meeting with Corey Johnson, USF's deputy director of athletics, and Horton, Sherwin stated that another developmental assistant, Lori Atwell, approached him about editing the paper for Brittian after she had earlier asked him to write a paper for Brittian, which he declined.

While Brittian may have to sit out for a year, Sherwin, who is also a student at the university, must serve six months of work probation, as well as receiving a letter of admonishment, and Atwell has resigned after working for three months with the department.

"The penalties are very steep, but I think they should be," Sherwin said.
"At a larger university, this might have been swept under the rug, but here, it's in the light, and I have even more pride in my school because they do things the right way."

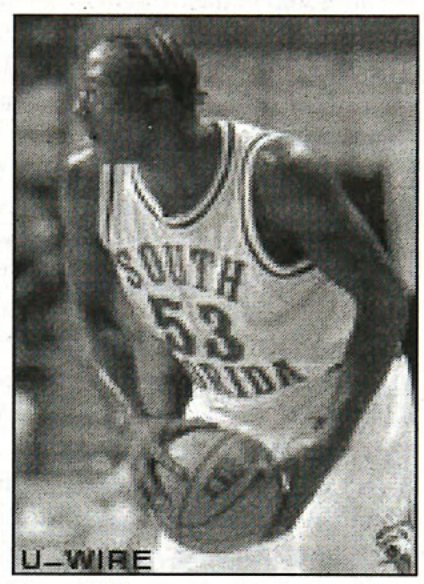
Once Brittian's penalty is handed down, USF will immediately appeal to the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement to restore Brittian's eligibility.

The Bulls are appealing for a half-year suspension (14 games) under the previous rule, provided Brittian meets five conditions set forth by USF: (1) He doesn't miss a class for the remainder of the school year. (2) Brittian serves an additional six hours of study hall per week. (3) He meets daily with an academic advisor. (4)He finishes the fall semester with at least a 2.5 GPA and no grade lower than a C minus. (5) Brittian serves 20 hours of community service during the semester break.

"The bar is high, but not out of reach," Horton said. "These are more important than practice and take precedent over competing. Greg's not going to be able to say, 'I have to go to practice or lift weights.'"

Should Brittian fail to meet any of the requirements, his ability to participate with the team will be revoked. Brittian will continue to practice with the team and remain on scholarship regardless of the NCAA's ruling.

"We're not in the business of discarding people," USF basketball coach Seth Greenberg said. "We'll let it play out, and as soon as the NCAA lets me know, we'll make a decision."



Greg Brittian, a senior forward on the South Florida men's basketball team, could be facing a one-year suspension for committing academic fraud. (Courtesy The Oracle)

While USF termed the fraud an isolated incident, it's up to the NCAA to rule whether the infraction is a primary or secondary violation. A secondary violation wouldn't carry any further sanctions for the team or the university.

Brittian, a 6-foot-6 forward from Mount Dora, started 25 games for the Bulls last season and averaged 5.8 points and 2.6 rebounds a game. Brittian was unavailable for comment.

Sports Con't

Florea had an outstanding week, finishing with a .300 hitting percentage. She averaged 4.8 kills and 4.2 digs in the six games. Florea was in a class by herself against Florida Tech with a .429 hitting percentage, 19 kills and 15 digs. She had 10 kills and a like number of digs against Rollins.

Sophomore Robbie Beach of Dayton, OH performed well against Florida Tech with a .379 attack percentage, 13 kills, 12 assists and nine digs, while senior Lottie Phillip of Castries, St. Lucia had eight kills and a .368 attack percentage.

Against Rollins, Beach chipped in with 27 assists and 10 digs, while freshman Eva Thompson of Erlanger, KY had 11 digs.

Pastrello shines for SLU in ITA fall tennis event

Saint Leo University sophomore Jose Pastrello reached the quarterfinals of the 2002 ITA/OMNI regional men's tennis tournament in both singles and doubles play at Rollins College.

A total of 64 singles players and 32 doubles teams competed in the top fall individual event. Pastrello, a native of Limeira, Brazil, defeated Travis Bauguess of Carson-Newman College 6-0, 6-0 in the opening round and Evan Bowling, the No. 1 player at Catawba College, 7-6, 7-6 in the second round.

Samir M'Bioka, the No. 3 seeded player in the tournament, defeated Pastrello 6-4, 6-2 in the quarterfinals.

In doubles play, Pastrello teamed with Mike DiGiacomo, a freshman from Windsor, Canada, to win their first and second round matches before dropping an 8-5 decision to M'Bioka and Thomas Hipp of Barry University, the No. 3 doubles seeded team, in the quarterfinals. DiGiacomo and Pastrello upset the No. 5 seeded team of Marius Calugarus and Raigo Saluster of Lynn University in the opening round 8-4 and beat Frank Mata and Richard Stempnowski of Florida Gulf Coast 8-4 in the second round.

Napolean Paralpa and Frank Gildhorn of Saint Leo lost to Marco Grangiero and Alvara Nunez of Florida Southern College 8-0 in the opening round of doubles action, while Ali Elnaamani and Adrian Nakayama dropped a tough 8-6 decision to Andrew Groslimond and Matt Umbers of Rollins College also in the opening round of doubles play.

Five other Lion players lost matches in the first round. Results included Calugaru over DiGiacomo 6-3, 6-2; Filip Norrman of Barry over Paralpa 6-0, 6-0; Dirk Benninghaus over Elnaamani 6-1, 6-0; Mark Thompson of Rollins over Gildhorn, 6-0, 6-0; and Richard Gutierrez of Carson-Newman over Nakayama 6-2, 6-1.

Nakayama, a sophomore from Bradenton, FL, bounced back to win three straight matches in the consolation side of the bracket before losing in the finals. DiGiacomo won his first two matches in the consolation bracket before bowing in the semifinals.

Saint Leo runners have rough trip in Florida Invitational

The Saint Leo University men's cross country team finished 24th in a 24-team field, while the women didn't field a full team in the University of Florida Invitational cross country meet in Gainesville.

The Lions finished with 735 points. Ryan LaPorte finished 136th overall in the 8-K event to lead Saint Leo at 35:35.48, while Joel Stephens was 146th at 38:26.91, Daniel Kahl was 148th at 40:07.88, Matthew Duran was 152nd at 48:08.29 and Joseph Delach was 153rd at 48:35.82.

MaryBeth Morrison was the first Saint Leo runner across the line. She turned in a career best time of 29:13.63 in the 6-K event. Other results included Katie Etchison 194th at 29:46.43, Krysia Scherlinger 210th at 35:57.13 and Danielle Walter 211th at 36:06.20.

Next up for the Lions was the Disney Invitational at the Wild World of Sports Complex in Lake Buna Vista.